

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

Please cancel claims 38, 39, 42-44, 47, 48 and 52-54 without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A recombinant Ad5 adenovirus ~~adding~~ comprising a new binding specificity ~~to an adenovirus~~ while retaining ~~novel tropism~~ native binding, wherein said adenovirus comprises an Ad5 fiber gene modified in the HI loop domain of ~~the~~ an Ad5 fiber knob by introduction of a ligand comprising an Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD) peptide into said HI loop domain, wherein the Ad5 fiber gene encoding the Ad5 fiber with the RGD peptide within the HI loop of the knob comprises an annealed duplex of (SEQ ID No. 10) and (SEQ ID No. 11).

34. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein said adenovirus can achieve CAR-independent transfer.

35. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein said adenovirus further comprises an additional modification to said fiber knob, thereby ablating the native tropism of said adenovirus.

36. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein said modified fiber knob retains its ability to trimerize and retains its native biosynthesis profile.

37. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein said ligand is selected from the group consisting of physiological ligands, anti-receptor antibodies and cell-specific peptides.

38-39. (Canceled) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein said ligand comprises a tripeptide having the sequence Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD).

40. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 33, wherein the adenovirus vector encoding said adenovirus further comprises a therapeutic gene.

41. (Previously Presented) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 40, wherein said therapeutic gene is the herpes simplex virus-thymidine kinase gene.

42-44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the ability of an adenovirus to ~~transduce~~ transduce a cell, wherein the cell has native adenoviral receptors, comprising the step of: modifying the fiber gene in the HI loop domain of the fiber knob of said adenovirus by introducing a ligand into said HI loop domain ~~according to~~ thereby generating the adenovirus of claim 33.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein said ligand is selected from the group consisting of physiological ligands, anti-receptor antibodies and cell-specific peptides.

47-48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein said tumor cell is selected from the group consisting of *in vitro*, *in vivo* and *ex vivo*.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the adenoviral vector encoding said adenovirus further comprises a therapeutic gene.

52-54. (Canceled)